

FASHION'S BUSY DAYS.

Women Getting Autumn and Winter Gowns Ready.

NEW UNDERSKIRTS OF SILK.

Costumes of Serge and Corduroy Among the New Styles.

Decorative and Shape of the Petticoat—Grey Skirts Very Useful—Headlines on the Question of What to Wear With Fancy Waists and Shirt Waists—The Blouses—Delectable Tailor-Made Suits—Egg Shell Blue a Color for Evening Gowns—Taking Novelties in Millinery.

Every day is now a red letter day at the shops where the fall openings are being conducted with fitting splendor, ceremonies and unusual crowds of appreciative women. This promises indeed to prove a notable season in fashions, for though there is nothing distinctly new in the whole realm



of dress put forward and scarcely a novel ornament of a hat shape, yet the women are buying as they never bought before. It needs a strong arm, prompt to act and somewhat ruthless, in order to gain a place at a counter. Once there it requires the diplomacy of a Kruger, first to secure a saleswoman and then to keep her from being carried away or reduced to hysterics by the importunities of a dozen and one equally determined and pitiless sister shoppers. However, in the race for clothes, in the desperate business of sample matching, all maneuvers are regarded as being as fair as under the exigencies of love and war, and might is right and to the victor belong the spoils when the task of clothes getting is undertaken. Where the tide of human interest and financial output runs high just now is in the silk, petticoat department, and the consensus of expert opinion is that never before have petticoats, these cornerstones of the wardrobe presented themselves more irresistibly. They are cut in the body part to take the exact shape of the prevailing top skirt, and from the knee down flow out luxuriantly and daintily in a maze of points and flutes and frills that, because of their intricacy, in overlapping and interweaving, successfully



bar anything like clear description. Suffice it to say that from waist to knee the silk sheath must be ornamented with standing decoration, and that portion of the garment is of belletta. Below the knee the most reasonable makers hang a deep flounce of crepe-de-chine, and upon this let fall tucked or embroidered points of taffeta edged with puffings of chiffon. There you have a pretty Columbine skirt of the most recent Rue de la Paix pattern. A respectable number of the skirts designed for evening wear have the great knee flounce made of one deep full fall of chiffon, on which are sewed small overlapping chiffon ruffles, the edges of which are again crisped with narrow ruckings of the same light woven stuff. The prime motive behind all this is an effort to secure perfect, limp, soft drapery at the ankles.

What we find in the realms of the useful are gowns upon scores of skirts made of dove, goose and maize grey silk, their borders garnished with ruffles of the same material, on the edges of which bebe ribbon, blue, pink or green, or all these colors together, is stitched. If any one wishes to know the excuse for this mode let it be understood that it is because thoughtful women have declared against the wearing of gaudy silk petticoats on the street, and grey is pronounced



a better choice even than black, while the changeable silks are no longer used. Numbers of women are taking enthusiastically and gratefully to the underskirts of flexible flannel that are constructed of flannel only. This little convenience is designed to close with the wishes of the woman who desires warmth and silky luxury without the necessity of loading

her limbs with two petticoats. Beside these skirts are the most dainty short flannel skirts in a variety of colors and most elaborately ornamented in the old-fashioned button stitch with tinted silk. From underskirts to topskirts is a natural course in dress topics, and it is wisdom to mention that there is a sort of deadlock just now on the question of what to wear with fancy waists and winter skirt waists. If the decision lay with them the dressmaker would at once abolish the grey waist and the skirt waist because any sewing woman would rather make two complete costumes than one special waist, and because she usually is not trusted to make a blouse. Naturally she sees no good reason for either, while every daughter of Eve clings to both with an adamant, not to be chilled by opposition, sort of affection. For a half dozen years a black skirt has been esteemed the fitting mate to a blouse or fancy bodice, but that combination has become old and common and the question is what next? A number of level-headed persons are wearing indoors and to the theatre with silk waists, more of less trimmed skirts of mulberry-colored cashmere ornamented with clusters of tucks; and plaid corduroy promises to be the choice for use with flannel blouses.

As to the fancy waists themselves, they are of lace for the evening and heavily adorned with lace for use by day. Lace yokes and sleeves and broad collars of fine needlework are what the most modern bodice needs, and very many of them are made of antique velvet offset with ecru or string colored Bruges or Cluny lace. More than ever are waists looked up in the back worn by the owners of young and slender figures, and a pretty girlish design in bottlegreen velvet has all the upper part of sleeves and waist puckered in close-set cord like perpendicular tucks. Over the shoulders falls a collar yoke of heavy string



grey Russian lace through the heading of which, at the neck and about the shoulders, a threading of black velvet baby ribbon runs, and cuffs of lace catch in the bishop sleeves at the wrist.

As to the silk and flannel blouses there is little real novelty in their shape, and the enterprise of their wearers seems all centered in the four-hand necktie, with floating handkerchief ends. There was never a moment's doubt as to the popularity of these strange violet, danson red, lichen grey and bougainville neckhandkerchiefs, with sometimes pretty, but more often curiously bizarre figures, embroidered on their scabbie ends. A rich red tie of heavy faller fraise will show a pair of crossed feet's babbles in rainbow colors on one end and a knight's helmet with plumes on the other. A ship under full sail, and a bouquet of particular flowers decorate another pair of ends, and with further varieties of equally eccentric patterns the autumn girl is proud and happy, and is busy moreover making a collection for wear throughout the winter.

Cashmere was the most modish light weight winter fabric last year; serge is what will wear in its place in the sunny future, and France sends us striped serge and crepe and ribbed serge, and



the dressmakers make them up into admirable costumes without overskirts, which, when they are not cut in a Princess fashion, are divided into a skirt and bolero waist. A few paragraphs back a reference was made to corduroy; and it is as well here to strengthen the assertion concerning it with the assurance that serge and corduroy are one of the modish combinations. For instance, with a serge skirt, a blouse and coat of corduroy are worn. Let it be borne in the minds of the incredulous that this new corduroy, when used for skirt waists, is thin, and as easily handled as the lightest weight of velvet; that it is made up with its cords running in a bayader, and that in a soft even flower blue, with a collar of imitation old Maltese lace, it is as graceful and becoming as possible. Now the coat that goes with this is made of double-faced corduroy that might almost be welcomed as a new thing under the sun, and it is apt to be cut saque shape and worn with a skirt fur hat, and there you have one of the prettiest late costumes that the autumn has brought us.

To give the tailors their due it must be confessed that in serge they are making up some very delectable little suits and one quaint notion they have is that of adding to dark ink blue serge skirt, maine severely plain, a grey or cream colored silk waistcoat, fringed with silver ball fringes and showing liberally between the wide open fronts of a short tight blouse coat of coral sewing was red serge. For early autumn use in the country these costumes are meant and later they can be worn in town, but naturally under a top coat.

From serge of very fine weave and unusually soft texture a good many more ceremonious costumes than the above will be made, and it may be noted that the offskirt is as if it had never

been. About the foot cloth, silk and satin gowns are still slightly trimmed, but the overskirt has by feminine prejudice been annihilated. In its stead nothing has come. Now and then among the treasures of the show rooms a skirt draped in lace flounce crops up, but the sweep of material is no longer even broken at the knee, saving



and excepting by the such effect extolled as often in these columns. A short fringed sort of Liberty satin is this moment the smart and appropriate finish at the waist line between the top of a skirt and the bottom of a waist. Usually, through a



more or less ornamental buckle, the fringed ends are drawn and allowed to hang at the left side.

Eggshell blue has made its debut as an evening color and greatly asserts itself in the realm of ball gown and dinner toilet fabrics. Of all shades of blue it is the most trying, when worn by a woman, but the freshest and loveliest of women, unless relieved by a tracing of lace near the throat. Wholesale praise, however, can be given and as hearty recommendation added concerning the new damasked satin figured crepes-de-chine, which, with



their beauty of quality and delicacy of coloring, fairly take the breath away. This is presently an evening fabric for it comes only in gradations of cream color against which blossom giant lavender and lemon, colored orchids, bouquets of pale pink and mauve hyacinths or sprays of trailing carnations. Very filmy Louis XV lace is what decorates this improved crepe to the greatest advantage, and the laws of fashion now admit, in lieu of spangles, delicate sprays of seed pearl trimming.



beating cloth butterfly wings, are having a bright ephemeral day of it, soon to fade before the advance of wonderful shades of very long napped felt twisted into forms that defy description. A buckle, a crown head of velvet and a pair of massive plumes constitute the decoration which these military shoes require, and their popularity is just as certain as if it was already an accomplished fact. These are not Directory hats nor shepherdess shapes, but even an outburst of the two styles and bear their honors

with or without strings. For theatre wear has come forth a full and most interesting flock of little crests, as they are called, made of tulle, marabout or any light downy stuff that will stand like a full-fledged bird of the hair. One of the prettiest theatre ideas consists of two balls of tulle, one black and one white, mounted on tulle-wrapped wires and to be fastened a tulle to one side of the high pinned tresses. Yet another pretty fancy is a wee weeping willow, made of pale green silk fringe falling from the top of a ribbon wrapped wire and every fringe end tipped with an ornament that twinkles like hoar frost.

WEATHER LORE.

Superstitions and Sayings as to the Meaning of Various Signs.

Thunder on Sunday is considered by the weather wise the sign of the death of a great man; on Monday, the death of a woman; on Tuesday, if in early summer, it foretells an abundance of grain; on Wednesday, warfare is threatened; on Thursday, an abundance of sheep and corn, the farmer may reckon upon; on Friday, some great man will be murdered; on Saturday, a general pestilence and great mortality.

Friday's weather shows what may be expected on the following Sunday—that is, if it rains on Friday noon, then it will rain on Sunday, but if Friday be clear, then Sunday will be fine as well.

The twelve days immediately following Christmas denote the weather for the coming twelve months, one day for a month. The day of the month the first snowstorm appears indicates the number of snowstorms the winter will bring. For example, the first snowstorm comes on November 20—look out for twenty-nine storms. There is an old saying—which originated perhaps for the benefit of school children—that there

NEW STYLES IN FURNITURE.

RED THE GREAT COLOR AND JACOBSON IDEAS USED.

Effects in a New Library of Black Wood With Red Finishings—Plate Boys Used to Display One's Surplus Silver—Novel Chairs for the Reception Salon.

Red, running through the gamut of its rich dyes, from Morris scarlet to the deepest mahogany, is the favorite color in house decoration this season. The steadily increasing popularity of mahogany in simple colonial forms has brought this color into fashion, and after long dalliance with French styles and a momentary fancy for delft blues, a lavish use of gliding and white paint, the whole elimination of interior ornaments is toward the older, darker and severer English modes. Nothing is more fashionable, for instance, than a library, a hall, or even an entire first floor, wholly decorated and furnished after the best Jacobson models left in England, Ireland and Scotland, and the use of the color of a King James room is that it can be done at as lavish or moderate cost as you please, and it is like nothing seen before in American homes.

In one New York house, only recently completed, there is a small Jacobson library that would be a faultless model for any one desiring a similar room to copy. The walls are hung in murrey colored leather, and the woodwork is carved cedar, the floor is stained black, then waxed, highly polished, and on it are laid red rugs. All the furniture and this mold in decoration come from an ancient manor house on the borders between England and Scotland. Carved fumed oak, so called from being blacked by age and the smoke from slow peat fires, forms the presses that hold the books, and the wooden portion of the quaint, uncomfortable, long-legged, low-backed conversation chairs, the window stools and the settees. Murrey colored leather upholstery these, and in corners against the walls there are carved locked chests for holding valued manuscripts and family papers, and one long tapestry curtain hangs at each deeply recessed window.

The effect of the Jacobson room is, in spite of the absence of mirrors, gilt and loose bric-a-brac, wonderfully rich, stately and cozy, and in those houses where no such liberal expenditure could be indulged, the decorators have pursued the King James style with wonderful cheapness and success. They copy the quaint furniture forms in carved black American walnut, or use oak to which art has given the worn, dusky tone of great age. Burlaps are laid on walls and painted murrey red, and walnut is used for woodwork or door facings, etc., painted black. Where in any room this early sixteenth century idea of decoration is followed, the bric-a-brac is carefully hoarded up in open-fronted cupboards or shallow presses with half glass doors, and the very newest idea in dining rooms is a great plate sideboard.

When a dinner party is given nowadays, it is in order for the hostess to put on view all her beautiful plate, gold and silver, not so much for actual use as for display, and the ornamentation of her dining room. Now, the ordinary low, Georgian, or colonial sideboard of mahogany is not well suited for this, so that some women who own splendid silver services, and whose husbands have won with their valiant and received from corporations beautiful gifts of plate, require special sideboards on which to exhibit their glittering hoards. For this purpose in black carved oak Jacobson plate boys, with shelves rising nearly to the ceiling, are being especially built and so placed as to bring the light from the chandeliers down on the many-branched candelabra can fall effectively on tiers of silver. One of the first plate boys introduced here was of richly carved fumed oak, a genuine King James or Charles piece, and its top shelf nearly touched the dining room ceiling. Other plate boys are built of any simple wood and then entirely covered in ruby red velvet, against which the plate shows as effectively and certainly at much less expense, than on the lofty oak shelves.

Sang de boeuf, or bull's blood red, is the approved tint, in which the drawing rooms are being done over, and the decorators say that it is the most becoming background possible for women of all colorings, and especially when in evening dress. It appears that in drawing room decoration, as in the feminine wardrobe, fables go in and out of fashion about every five years, and now after the decades of damasks of the French influence velvet come to its own again. It is used as a wall hanging, for portieres and curtains, not draped but hanging straight, arras fashion. Modern silk velvet is not approved; Venetian, Utrecht and Flanders velvet are the kinds employed for hangings and upholstery, and just now, no matter what your taste is colonial, your library Jacobson, and your dining room of another period, your drawing room must not be in any particular outlandish fashion. One of its most important features is its chairs, that can be chosen from every period in history if you choose, provided they are all graceful and ornamental.

In the newly done over reception salons there is sure to be a carved cedar gondola chair, inlaid with very pink pearl and bits of coral, and softened in its curved seat by a plump pillow covered with Venetian velvet and having heavy gold tassels at its four corners. On either side the drawing room fireplace are also inevitably a pair of lofty backed chair chairs. These have gilded frames, perfectly straight, solid wood backs, down the centre of which a strip of red velvet is fastened, velvet seats, and are occupied usually by the hostess and her most honored feminine guest. A deep Dutch easy chair is another one of the new novelties in the American drawing room, and a feature now noticeable is the increasing number of footstools. Women are just beginning to learn again not only that against a crimson velvet cushion their slender, delicately shapely feet show to great advantage, but that there is no better means of resting tired feet than by the use of a footstool, and also there is no wiser precaution, when weary or under the weather, for escaping colds and neuralgia by propping the feet upon a cushion.

The upholsterers are making a great deal of many shapes and materials, stuffing them with feather or a fine hair, and covering them with bits of handsome tapestry, bullion embroidered velvet, or sand moleskin, dowskin and leather, and hanging tassels at their corners, until they have become essential ornaments in any well decorated living room.

BASKET-WORK DRESS-SUIT CASES.

And Basket-Work Hand-Bags Added to the Telescope Cases From Japan.

Basket-work telescope cases, used for traveling and other purposes, have been imported from Japan for years. These are made in different weaves, and in different shapes or proportions, and in at least half a dozen different sizes. The baskets are imported in nests, to save bulk in transportation, the nest including a basket of each size from the smallest to the largest. The case is made by interlacing and closing down over any one basket, one of the nest size larger. Straps and a handle, to hold the case together and to carry it by, complete the outfit. Such telescope cases have long been familiar.

New this year from Japan comes a dress suit case of basket-work, for the first time, fashioned on substantially the same lines as the widely used leather suit case, and not telescoping, but opening in the same way as the ordinary manner. There are now imported from Japan basket-work hand-bags for years. These are made in different shapes, and in different sizes, and are very popular. They are made in five sizes, with sufficient difference in the size so that they will nest.

These wicker hand-bags are used to carry bath suits in, they are carried on picnics, and as lunch bags, and they are used for shopping purposes and so on.

May Be the Largest Quarried Stone.

From the Morning Oregonian. DALLAS, Ore., Sept. 8.—The last shingle in the roof house stone quarry were fired by electricity, and broke from the body of the quarry a mass of stone 110 feet long, 8 feet wide and 6 feet thick, estimated to contain 6,000 cubic feet, and weighing 1,000,000 pounds, or 25 carloads of 40,000 pounds in the car. This mass is now being cut into blocks of wagon-load size and hauled to the building and replit into dimension stone on the court house ground.



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FOOD OF THE FUTURE.

Prospect of a Time When Mankind Will Take Pills Instead of Dining.

The food of the future will be concentrated or compressed, so some men of science believe. Science has already done wonders for those who eat, and the possibility of getting rid of it, so as to have the food in the smallest compass possible. Already the housewife finds many of her problems simplified by utilizing the extracts which are increasing in the market from day to day. When, instead of having to buy a soup bone and soup bones, and to cook it for three or four hours, you have simply to swallow a little capsule or pellet as a plate of soup, the matter of housekeeping will be very much simplified.

But the scientists have done very much more than this. They can at the present moment save us hours of time and endless trouble and expense, by providing a dinner of seven courses that will all go on a dinner plate and can be swallowed in five minutes. The best part of it all is that you will be better nourished than if you had sat at the table for two hours, for all of the waste matter of the food has been extracted, and you swallow only that which you can and will assimilate easily.

When a woman goes shopping she need no longer sit and fume for an hour waiting for the slow waiter to bring her chicken salad and ice cream; but she will simply ask for a glass of water and a little salt, put a lounge of beef extract in it and have a most nourishing luncheon that never before, and that without losing a minute of the precious shopping time. When you come down to breakfast there need be no question: How do you like your eggs? but you will find a glass of water at your plate, and washing it down with a swallow of milk, you will have eaten your eggs. Do you like milk for breakfast? Have another little cube; it goes down in a moment and you have had your milk. If you prefer chocolate or tea, there are similar compressions of these liquids for the stimulating of the system.

Only a housekeeper has any idea of the tremendous mass of material that is not consumed, but is wasted daily in preparing the meals. It is a fact that a man eats seven times his weight in food during a single year. If he were to live on compressed food he would find that he consumed only one and a half times his size, so great is the difference between the food of the past and the food of the future. Tea is compressed so well that even the aroma is preserved in the little ball that stands for a cup full. You can drink a glass of mineral water by swallowing a little pill and, queerly enough, it will quench your thirst better than the original. It is now stated that a man can swallow a cake of mineral water the size of a visiting card and require no more liquid for the whole day. The compression of meat has been accomplished to perfection, so that you can have a slice of roast beef in the shape of a pill or a thin wafer of extract.

This food of the future must make many changes in our mode of life and largely contribute to our health and comfort. When there is no more marketing necessary, no more quarrelling with the waiter over short weight and poor glass, when Bridget can't turn the steak to a crisp any more, and there is no need for the ice man or the garbage man, living will be relieved of many of the terrors which have worried housekeepers.

This compressed, prepared food will also be of great value to the workman, who will merely slip a lounge or two into his pocket instead of carrying a tin full of all kinds of things that are a mess when it is time to eat them. It must be cheaper than the food of the present, for it will be prepared in large quantities and there will be no waste. All parts of the ox, for instance, are equally nourishing, and the neck will be as valuable for this food as the tenderloin. It is impossible to think of all the problems which this food may aid in solving. But of one thing we may be certain, that it will be of infinite value to the explorer and the traveler. Polar expeditions will be greatly simplified, for a man can easily pull on a sled all the food he will want for a year in the compressed form.

Nervous Troubles

In women are largely due to "blood poverty."

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